

# MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

## SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, February 25, 1846.

Wall, from the select committee, reported back, with sundry amendments, a bill to change the mode of collecting revenue from hawkers and pedlars; which was passed.

Miles introduced a bill to regulate the proceeding and practice in suits against the master, overseer, owner and employer of slaves convicted of grand larceny; which was passed summarily.

The bill to authorise the auditor to remit the damages of 30 per centum against defaulting tax-collectors, etc., was committed to the whole house, and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

A bill granting pre-emption rights to settlers on the 500,000 acre donation by congress, in certain cases, was read first time.

A bill to amend the act to prescribe the mode of proceeding against incorporated banks for a violation of their corporate franchises, approved July 26, 1843, was read the third time and passed—ayes 18, noes 14.

The apportionment bill from the house was taken up, when it was twice read, and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

The senate concurred in the house amendments to the bill amending the married woman's law.

The resolution to adjourn on the 5th of March, was laid on the table.

The Senate then adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, February 25.

The judiciary committee reported back the bill to amend the laws of this state in relation to probate courts, with amendments; read third time and passed.

The same committee reported back the bill in relation to the rights of married women; which was accepted—ayes 45, noes 44. The bill was then passed—ayes 45, noes 43.

Graves, by leave, called up the report of the committee on the apportionment bill. The question was taken on agreeing to the report of the committee, and decided in the affirmative—ayes 52, noes 40. On motion, the rule was suspended and the bill read a third time. The question was then taken on the passage of the bill, and decided in the affirmative—ayes 54, noes 39.

The bill to amend the laws for the punishment of slaves who may be guilty of grand larceny, was rejected.

The bill to authorise the boards of police to appoint leaders of patrols, was passed.

The bill to amend the act of 1843, commonly called the quo warranto law, was read the first time, and made the special order for to-morrow at 11 o'clock. On motion the House adjourned.

## SENATE.

THURSDAY, February 26, 1846.

The amendment made by the house to the resolution from the senate fixing the 5th of March as the day of adjournment sine die, of the legislature, was called from the table and concurred in.

The senate then resolved itself into committee of the whole on the apportionment bill; and after some time spent therein, the committee rose, reported the bill with some slight amendments, when it was considered as engrossed, read 3d time and passed—ayes 21, noes 11.

Matthews introduced the following resolutions, which were read a third time and postponed until to-morrow:

1st. That the amount now reported by the treasurer as being on deposit in the state treasury, say ninety-two thousand six hundred dollars, in gold and United States treasury notes, payable to Richard S. Graves, if so much there be, to the credit of the two and three per cent. fund, be and the same are hereby declared to constitute the amount of said funds now in the treasury; and that the treasurer be required to pay any requisition on either of said funds, made by the governor under the authority of law, upon him, in any of said notes, and to endorse the same on such payment, as treasurer of this state.

2d. That should any loss accrue to said funds by reason of the defalcation of Richard S. Graves, or the insolvency of his securities, such loss shall, by said treasurer, be apportioned between said funds, according to the several amounts of each, as received by Richard S. Graves, from the treasurer of the United States.

The bill to consolidate the office of commissioner of the seminary fund and state commissioner, was read the second time and referred to the committee on the seminary fund.

The senate concurred in the house amendments to the bill to establish at the city of Jackson a vaccine depot and agency for the state, with a view to the prevention of small-pox.

Miles called from the orders of the day the bill to regulate the practice in actions of ejectment, etc.; amended in committee of whole and ordered engrossed.

Lansdale introduced a bill to authorise an appeal or writ of error to the refusal of the circuit courts to grant continuances; which was read the first time.

The bill to divide the state into four congressional districts, was taken up in committee of the whole; and after some time spent therein, the committee rose, and reported back said bill with sundry amendments; which was adopted, and the bill ordered to be engrossed—ayes 19, noes 12.

On motion the Senate adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, February 26, 1846.

The judiciary committee reported against the bill to prescribe the manner in which suits shall be brought against the state.

The bill for the consolidation of the offices of state commissioner and commissioners of the seminary fund, and for other purposes, was passed.

The bill to establish a vaccine depot and agency for the prevention of small-pox, in the city of Jackson, was passed.

The bill to amend the act prescribing the mode of proceeding against incorporated banks, for a violation of their corporate franchises etc.; passed—ayes 51, noes 41.

The house concurred in the amendments of the senate to the apportionment bill.

The house went into committee of the whole, Warren in the chair, on the revenue bill. After some time spent therein, the committee rose, reported progress and obtained leave to sit again to-morrow.

Pendleton, on leave, introduced a bill to explain and regulate the duties of officers of elections; thrice read.

The house adjourned.

## SENATE.

FRIDAY, February 27, 1846.

The senate concurred in the nominations of the following gentlemen by the governor as commissioners of the Brandon and Jackson railroad company: George T. Swann, George Fearn, James McDowell, Elisha Stephens and Robert Maxey.

The bill to divide the state into four congressional districts, was called up and passed—ayes 17, noes 14.

The bill to regulate the practice and proceedings in actions of ejectment, was passed.

Also, the resolution for the consolidation of the offices of state and sinking fund commissioners.

The resolution authorising the treasurer to pay any requisition made by the governor on the two and three per cent. fund, and apportioning the loss on account of the defalcation of Richard S. Graves, between said funds, was read the third time and passed.

The bill authorising the auditor of public accounts to remit the damages of 30 per cent. against defaulting tax collectors, was taken up in committee of the whole, who reported it back, amended; ordered to be engrossed.

On motion the Senate adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, February 27, 1846.

Weathersby introduced a bill to regulate the manner of proceeding in suits brought for the recovery of physicians' bills.

McCaughan offered a resolution instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of authorising the board of police of the several counties of this state to decide on what streams shall be considered as navigable; adopted.

The house went into committee of the whole, Warren in the chair, on the revenue bill. After some time spent therein, the committee rose, reported progress, and recommended that the bill be recommitted to the committee of ways and means; agreed to.

Hyneman, by leave, introduced a bill to amend the militia laws of this state.

The house bill to divide the state into four congressional districts, came up.—Warren moved to postpone the bill indefinitely; carried—ayes 48, noes 34.

Fontaine, on leave, introduced a bill to provide for the sale of the 500,000 acres of land donated by Congress; read the first time.

The bill to regulate the fees of sheriffs in certain cases, was passed.

The bill to regulate the practice and proceedings in the action of ejectment, was read the first time.

The House then adjourned.

## SENATE.

SATURDAY, February 28, 1846.

Guion introduced a bill to authorise the revival of suits and judgments at law; passed.

Miles introduced a bill to tax prosecutors with costs, in certain cases; read third time and passed.

Ramsey introduced a bill to provide for the geological survey of the state.

The governor informed the senate that he had signed several bills, among which were:

An act for the protection and preservation of the rights of married women.

And an act to amend the law prescribing the mode of proceeding against incorporated banks, approved July 26, '43.

The appropriation bill was reported, read second time, variously amended, and ordered engrossed for a third reading.

The senate adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, February 28, 1846.

Several reports, from standing and select committees, on private and local subjects, were made and acted upon.

Dilworth of Tishomingo, on leave, introduced a bill providing that treasury warrants issued prior to 1st January, 1841, and remaining unfunded, shall be placed on the same footing as other warrants issued since; which was summarily passed.

The house then took up the resolution from the senate to amend the constitution so as to prohibit the incorporation of banks, and it was again passed, 74 to 4.

The house then took up the revenue bill, in committee of the whole, and after some time spent thereon, the committee rose.

Senate joint resolution relative to the two and three per cent. funds, was summarily passed.

The house went into committee of the whole on the bill to establish common schools; after some time spent therein, the committee rose and reported.

On motion the House adjourned.

**Dancing.**—Dancing contributes in a most essential degree to the preservation of health. Children, weak and feeble in limb, will, by this exercise, imperceptibly acquire new vigor. On the other hand, when the pupil is healthy and strong, the practice of dancing will retain and increase his strength. Dancing is also conducive to the formation of the manners, by imparting a graceful mien and becoming address to the learner, and by teaching him to walk with propriety and ease. Like every other bodily exercise, it gives a moral confidence to the demeanor which natural elegance of manner will not entirely supply. The early moulding of the body to the most polished attitudes lends to youth the graceful carriage of mature age; and ease of manner once attained in early life, it is impossible to lose in after years.

**Law of the Finger Ring.**—If a gentleman wants a wife, he wears a ring on the first finger of the left hand; if he is engaged, he wears it on the second finger; if married on the third; and on the fourth if he never intends to get married. When a lady is not engaged, she wears a hoop or diamond on her first finger; if engaged, on the second; if married, on the third; and on the fourth if she intends to be a maid. When a gentleman presents a fan, flower, or trinkets to a lady with the left hand, this, on his part, is an overture of regard; should she receive it with the left hand, it is considered as an acceptance of esteem; but if with the right hand, it is a refusal of the offer. Thus, by a few simple tokens, explained by rule, the passion of love is expressed.

**ORIGIN OF THE TERM WHIG.**—The name Whig, made its appearance in North Carolina, when power first began to encroach on the rights of the people. It made its appearance in England when the kingly power sought to destroy every vestige of human liberty. It made its appearance in the thirteen Colonies when the British Crown attempted to fasten cords of slavery on the people, and compel obedience to the dictation of a single man! Is the name then a reproach? Then do all the patriots who have stood up for the rights of the people, in opposition to tyranny, since the foundation of the world, bear the stain—for they were all Whigs. The name implies opposition to misused power, and we glory, as does every true Whig, in the name. [Raleigh Register.]

**EDUCATION IN NEW ENGLAND.**—The money expended for common school education in New England, last year, considerably exceeds one dollar for every man, woman and child in each State.—The amount of the Massachusetts School Fund is now 779,395 55, derived principally from the sale of Maine lands. The number of children educated last year between 4 and 16 was 194,984.

## One Month Later from Europe.

The steamer Cambria arrived at Boston with dates from Liverpool to the 4th, London to the 3d, and Paris to the 1st.

The Continental news is of very little interest, except the debate on American affairs in the French Chambers.

The impression seems to prevail pretty generally that Ministers will be able to carry all their propositions, and thus there will be an abandonment of the Corn laws—partial at present—with a sliding scale leading to their total extinction at the end of three years.

Parliament was opened on the 22d of January by the Queen.

## England and the United States.

On the 22d January, in the House of Commons, Mr. Hume introduced the relations of Great Britain and the United States. He said he hoped the Prime Minister would be able to preserve the good understanding which existed between the two nations. It was in the power, he said, of England and France, to preserve the peace of the world.—He approved heartily of the Queen's recommendation for an increase of the naval and military force of the country, which he was sure would meet the approbation of the House and the nation. He expressed the more gratification with this "when he found the chief magistrate of a great country, from whom he expected better things, venture to set at nought all those rules and regulations which civilized nations observed towards each other."

Sir Robert Peel responded to this as follows:

"I never entertained the slightest apprehension that any contrast between the language employed in her majesty's speech in reference to those unfortunate disputes that still prevail between this country and America, and that which has been used by the chief magistrate of the United States, would have been made in this House. I never thought that that could be mistaken or misrepresented.—We have no hesitation in announcing our sincere desire, for the interest of this country, for the interest of the United States and for the interest of the civilized world, in continuing to strain every effort which is consistent with national honor, for the purpose of amicably terminating those disputes. [Hear.] I never had any apprehension that our intentions or our language would be misrepresented; and the speech of which the honorable gentleman, (Mr. Hume,) the uniform and consistent advocate of the strictest economy, has just made, confirms me that my anticipations will not be disappointed. [cheers.] And if any proposal which her Majesty's Government may feel it their duty to make for the maintenance of essential rights, or of the national honor, shall be responded to and supported by this House, then let me not be mistaken. I think it would be the greatest misfortune if a contest about the Oregon between two such powers as England and the United States could not, by the exercise of moderation and good sense, be brought to a perfectly honorable and satisfactory conclusion. [Cheers.]

Sir Robert Peel said he was not prepared to give an answer to the questions that had been put, but in regard to Oregon he made the following very important declarations:

"With regard to the Oregon territory, I have to state that a proposition was made by Mr. Buchanan, with the authority of the President of the United States, to Mr. Pakenham, and the proposal so made suggested a division of the territory. Whether or not that proposal ought to have been accepted I cannot say. Mr. Pakenham thought the terms proposed were so little likely to be acceptable, that he did not feel himself warranted in transmitting the proposal to the government at home; and on signifying this to Mr. Buchanan, the latter immediately stated the proposal was withdrawn. This is the state of the negotiations at present, so far as I am informed, respecting the proposal submitted by Mr. Buchanan. I have the highest opinion of Mr. Pakenham; I have the greatest respect for his talents & the greatest confidence in his judgment, yet I must say, it would have been better had he transmitted that proposal to the Home Government for their consideration, and if found in itself unsatisfactory, it might have formed the foundation for a further proposal.—(Hear.) Since that period this country has again repeated to the United States their offer of referring the matter to arbitration, but no answer has yet been received to the proposal so made.

In the House of Lords, soon after the opening of the session, the Duke of Wellington made some declarations touching the recent Ministerial difficulties, which are thus reported:

The Cabinet differed about the Corn laws, and resigned. The Duke disliked the repeal of these laws, but he disliked a difference in the Cabinet more. To

preserve unanimity of opinion he was ready to sacrifice any law—to give up any pet scheme. Accordingly, when the Whigs, through divided councils, broke down, Sir Robert Peel wrote to the duke who was in the country at the time, telling him that he would meet pose a repeal of the Corn laws, and Duke immediately gave in his adhesion and highly praised the "pluck" of his right honorable friend in coming to such a determination; it was what he would have done himself under the pressure of similar circumstances.

## New Commercial Policy of England.—House of Commons, Jan. 26.

On Tuesday evening, before a crowded house, Sir Robert Peel entered on his great financial scheme.

I am induced to propose, as an earnest of the principle upon which I shall act, the immediate reduction of the duty on many articles of primary importance which constitute the food of man. I shall propose that all the reductions shall be immediate; but I will first take those articles of consumption in respect to which I propose immediate and total repeal. I propose to take an extensive review of all articles included in the tariff which enter into the consumption of the people. I propose, on the part of her Majesty's Government, that the duty should be immediately reduced upon butter from 20s to 10s per cwt; upon cheese, from 10s to 5s per cwt; upon hops, from £4 10s to £2 5s; upon cured fish, from 2s to 1s per cwt.—Now, I take the articles of agricultural produce upon which I propose an immediate repeal. I propose an immediate repeal of the duty on all those articles which constitute meat, as distinguished from grain; that the duty on fresh beef, on salted beef, on what are called unenumerated articles, salt pork and fresh pork, on potatoes, on vegetables of all kinds, shall be repealed. (Cheers.) I propose that all that enters into the vegetable, anything that constitutes animal food, shall be admitted duty free. (Cheers.)

## Liverpool Cotton Market.

The Cotton Market had sustained but little change. During the week ending Jan. 16, Cotton had slightly advanced—say one eighth per pound; and the total sales amounted to 36,600 bales. The sales for the week ending Jan. 23, were 37,620 at full prices, and during the week ending Jan. 30, there was a decline of 3d on some kinds of American. The sales were 39,000.

Feb. 3.—Since Friday the sales have amounted to 19,000 bales, nearly all to the trade. The market is dull, but prices are steadily supported.

## STORM AT THE NORTH—SHIPWRECKS.

SIXTY LIVES LOST.—One of the severest gales that has occurred at the North for many years, commenced blowing on Saturday night, the 14th inst., from the North-east, strewn the coasts with wrecks. Ten vessels are reported as wrecked.

The New York Journal of Commerce give the following account of the loss of the ship John Minturn, from New Orleans: "At 8 o'clock on Sunday morning the ship John Minturn, Capt. Starke, from New Orleans for New York, went ashore three miles south of Squam Inlet. Six of the crew came ashore in the small boat. These men were all that were saved. They stated that the Captain had his wife and two daughters on board, who perished with the remainder of the crew and passengers.

The Captain sent a rope ashore by the boat saved, and following immediately after in another boat, and with the rope as a guide, endeavored to land all the crew and passengers in safety, but from some cause, unknown, the rope gave way, and the boat containing the Captain, it is believed, swamped, and all that remained thus perished. The cries of those on board were heard on the beach until about 10 o'clock the following day, when it is expected the vessel went to pieces.

"Capt. Starke was close in shore, as is customary at this season of the year, expecting always a north-wester; and as the wind suddenly chopped around to the east, he had not time to get his vessel far enough off to be safe, and was thus driven ashore."

We are as yet unable to publish the names of the passengers on board; but list has been received by the consignee; but having our calculation on the amount of passage money obtained, and from other facts, we are led to believe that sixty souls perished, including the Captain, wife, two children, crew, cabin and steerage passengers.

The cargo is the usual assorted New Orleans cargo, and from a rough estimate, it is valued at \$60,000. The cargo and vessel together will swell the amount hard on to a hundred thousand dollars.